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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 (e)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

February 2, 2000

Sir:

I hereby certify that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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